79

NEWES FROM FRANCE:

OR,

A TRVE DISCOVERY

Of the practises of divers of our English Fugitives there.

Wherein maliciously they would engage the French King to give assistance to His Majesty against His High Court of PARLIAMENT.

With the King of FRANCE's Answer to their Malignant Counsels.

Sent in a Letter from PARIS to a person of good account in this City, and by him published.

Whereunto is added a true Copy of the *Londoners* last Petition to the high Court of Parliament for Peace.

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LONDON, Printed for *Iohn Matthewes*.

NEWES FROM

FRANCE:

OR

A TRUE DISCOVERY

of the secrets of our English

Papists there.

With what Zeal they have prosecuted their

Emprises against the Protestants,

In the high Court of PARLIAMENT.

With the King of FRANCE's Answer to

their Religious Counsels.

Sent in a Letter from PARIS to a person of good

account in this City, and by him published.

Wherein is also a true Copy of the Lords last

Petition to the high Court of Parliament for Peace.

LONDON, Printed for John Marsden.

Newes from FRANCE.

LEtters (my deare friend) as well as kisses mingle soules: Your free and reall correspondence you have retained with me since my arrivall into these forraine parts, having conveyed my heart into thy bosome, and transported thine hither as it were in a mutuall exchange. France is full of the Relation of the English affaires; with us in Paris there are many discourses of the late battell, but I beleeve but a few true ones: though the Malignants and fugitives of our Nation here cry up the Cavaliers victorious, which we that love our Country hope is not truth. Here are rumours of Forces which the King of France has in Picardy at Calice, Bulloigne, and other opposite parts to our English shore, with a Fleet also in those Havens. I make no doubt but you have heard of them in England, whither some conjectured they were to be imployed; but I have with my most industrious care and my best intelligence striv'd to get knowledge in that affaire, which *bona fide* I shall impart to you as I have received the notice from some of good and eminent credit in this Court. It is not unknowne to thee (gentle *Will*) that Paris and other parts of France have been the constant Sanctuary, to which our English Delinquents voted so since the Session of the High Court of Parliament (I meane such as could escape the Island) have resorted for refuge, as Secretary *Windebanke*, Master *Jermin*, and the rest of those turbulent spirits, that like the fellow that set *Diana*'s Temple on fire at Ephesus, onely to leave a memory though of mischiefe to posterity, sought to acquire fame to themselves by their Countries ruine. And these men have with their utmost endeavours striv'd to endeare their cause to the King of France, exemplifying the injustice of their sufferings, and

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candalizing as much as its possible for persons of their spleene and malice, the Intentions and actions of the Honourable the High Court of Parliament; especially Master *Iermin*, who by the meanes of his acquaintance in the Court of France, where sometimes hee was Embassadour, and by the Commands of the Queene of England hath indifferent respects, and free countenance into the society of the Princes; the King himself affording him his eare very often: To whom hee did remonstrate with much earnestnesse the affaires of his Majesty of England, intimating how injuriously they dealt with him here, that he was in a manner expulsed by violence from his Palace; that his Royall Consort, his Majesties Sister, the Queen, was as it were enforced to reside for her safety in the Netherlands: That his Master the King could not with so much interest challenge aid, or expect succours from any Prince of Christendome, as from his Majesty, being his next neighbour, and his brother: That hee was for the common interest of Kings, and their honour, engaged to the cause, being so prejudiciall to Majesty, to have subjects as it were give Lawes to their Prince: And therefore he desired his Majesty would please to transferre an able Fleet, with good store of ammunition, and all other military provision, into the North of England, for the Kings assistance, whom he was confident would make his Majesty ample retribution for his expense, and be ready to serve him in any affaire with his best ability. The King of France (as I was credibly informed) making M. *Iermyn* this answer; That for his good Brother the King of Englands troubles, he was as much afflicted as if they had happned to himselfe; that he could heartily wish that a sudden and faire attonement were made up between the King and his Parliament, whom hee conceived very honourably of; and that he could not beleeve so many brave and loyall men of ability and worth as were assembled in the present Parliament, would do any thing against their allegeance to their Soveraigne, or the peace and safety of the Kingdom; that it was absolutely affirmed, that King *Charles* was rather mis-informed against his Parliament by some Malignants,

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then that his Parliament did either offer or intend any violence to his sacred person, or diminution to his royall dignity or Prerogative: That for the Queene his deare Sister, hee conceived she went into Holland for her healths sake, and to accompany her daughter the Princesse, rather then of feare of her safety in England: That for the setting forth of any fleet, or sending hither any provisions of War, as the case stood with him, though he would gladly furnish his Majesty with any assistance in his power, yet he could no way possible grant his desires, having imployment for all his ships, men, and ammunition; having the King of Spaine to enemy in all parts of his Dominions, being enforced to keepe three severall armies on foot against him, *viz.* one in Picardy, to secure those Frontiers from the invasion of the Low-countries; one in Gascony, to repell the attempts of the Biscayners; and a third in Berne and Burgundy, to assist the Catalonians, that have put themselves into his protection: and that besides hee did conceive he could not with the safety of the unity between France and England send any Forces into that Kingdome against the PARLIAMENT, which he confidently believed were full of duty and good intentions to the KING: and therefore prayed Master *Jermin* to cease any further treaty in that behalfe which he could not in honour listen to, nor with safety put in practice, the Councell of *France* being not to be won to give their consents to any thing that might infringe the league with *England*. Master *Jermin* take being dowe, as the saying is, with this reply, and that refusall of his purpose, hath not, to my best notice, since solicited his suit, but rests here without much noyse. And in good truth, if my boat may be hoo, in affaires so farre above my capacity, there is no possibility, had the *French* any intentions to attempt ought against the Kingdom of *England*, that it should sute to any effect: the army and fleet which was at *Calice* and about those parts, being billetted there about necessarily for the defence of those Provinces against the incursions of the *Wallons*, who from their garrisons of *Gravelling*, *Saint Omers*, *Bapaume*, *Ayre*, *Bethun* and *Cambray*,

daily and mightily infest those frontiers with their parties; and for navy ships, they cannot peepe out of their ports of *Bollone*, *Calice*, or *Havendgrace*, but the little *Dunkirker* hath them by the backe, who watch all advantages to surprize the *Frenchmen*; and for any of the other parts of *France*, they are either too remote from our *English* coasts, or unfurnish'd of any considerable number of vessells, *Bordeaux* and the river of *Garonne*, which have the most and best ships being very loth to have any enmity with *England*, whither they vend their wines, deriving to themselves, and all the whole Countrey large annuall emolument out of their traffique with that Kingdome; and for the ports of *France* in the *Mediterranean* seas, they were very simple that would imagine the King of *France* would bring any of his men of war from *Marseilles*, which consist most part of Galleys, into our seas, in which they are uselesse by the long tract of the *Spanish* coasts; being they must needs passe the straights, which are constantly guarded with store of able galleys, both to stop the passages of the *French* and *Turks*; so that the malignants in *England* may as well hope for succours out of the world in the Moone, as out of any part of *France*; and for ammunition, especially powder and lead; the frequent and divers warres here have rendred it so scarce, that they would gladlier purchase it in *England* then export it out of their owne Countrey: this is my conjecture, in which I am certaine I have not drawne my arrow by ill aime, if I hit not the marke. For other newes here in *Paris*, it is all of the ordinary sort; the nimble witted *French* Taylors have brought up a new fashion of doublets, upon whose skirts none shall sit, they being for their smalnesse scarce discernable, some thirty about a doublet: I make no doubt you will have it ere long with you in *London*, and be *a la mode de France*: there is rumour here, that the Pope is lately dead; and that there is like to be a shrewd contention among the Cardinells. The *Spanish* faction standing for Cardinall *Spinola*; and the *French* for the old Popes Nephew. Would all were peace in *England*, on the condition all the Conclave of them were at the gallowes, and so dearest *Will* adieu, and be sure there is nothing more pretious to me then thy love, I being so many wayes ingaged thy Servant, *W. S.*

TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE THE *LORDS* and *COMMONS* Now assembled in the high Court of PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of divers Inhabitants of the City of LONDON, *and the Liberties thereof.*

SHEWETH,

THat the present sense of our miseries, and apprehension of inevitable ruine both of the Church and Commonwealth, make us to become humble suitors to this Honourable Assembly (the likest meanes under God for our relieſe) to consider our distressed estates, and to provide a speedy remedy for our present and future evills, earnestly desiring you to weigh the care and judgement of our Predicessors, who by a knowne Law, settled and preserved our Protestant Religion, our Liberties, and Properties with a right understanding between King and Subjects, which produced peace and plenty in our streets.

And

And to reflect with serious thoughts upon our present distractions, arising from Religion by Papists and Sectaries, engaging our Nation into a civill, bloody, and destructive war, introducing the Lawes and Liberties, endangering all our lives, and utterly disinabling us to relieve our distressed Brethren in Ireland. We beseech you seriously to consider the effects of a continued war, as the distruction of Christians, the unnaturall effusion of blood; fathers against sonnes, brothers by brothers, friends by friends slaine, then, famine and sickness, the followers of civill war, making way for a generall confusion, and invasion by a forraigne Nation, while our Treasure is exhausted, our Trade lost, and the Kingdome disepopled. These things weighed and enlarged by your wisedomes, we doubt not will be a strong motive in you to labour, as in us to desire a speedy Peace, and a happy Accommodation.

Wherefore wee humbly crave, that (not lending an eare to any fomenters of these present wars under what pretence soever, nor remembring ought that may increase jealousies, or continue divisions betweene his Majesty and his House of Parliament) you will speedily tender his Majesty (according to his Royall inimations) such Propositions for Accommodation, as hee may with honour and safety to the [illegible] come accepted. For effecting whereof, we shall be ready to assist you with the best and utmost of our abilities, and while you endeavour Peace, we shall send up our Prayers to Heaven for the blessing of Peace upon you for our relief, and that wee may enjoy it, (

[illegible] and to provide a speedy remedy against future and immediate evills, [illegible] defining you to weigh the care and judgement of our Predecessors, who by a knowne Law, settled and preserved our Protestant Religion, our Liberties, and Properties with a right understanding between King and Subjects, which produced peace [illegible] our Ancestors.

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